



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

May 24, 2011

**REVISED**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

12 MAY 31, 2011

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

**REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO EXECUTE THE  
AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM CAL ECONNECT TO EXPAND  
HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE SERVICES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
(ALL DISTRICTS AFFECTED) (3VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Authorization for the Chief Executive Officer to execute an Agreement with Cal eConnect for Health Information Exchange Expansion Grant funds to support the Los Angeles Network for Enhanced Services Health Data Highway Project.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), as Chair of the Los Angeles Network for Enhanced Services (LANES) Board, to execute and implement the terms of the Cal eConnect (CeC) Health Information Exchange (HIE) Expansion Grant Agreement (Agreement), on behalf of LANES, and accept grant funds of \$996,070 for the Health Data Highway Project (HDHP), effective upon approval by your Board, for the term of June 2011 through November 2012, with approval by County Counsel and prior notification to your Board.
2. Delegate authority to the CEO to execute future amendments for modifications needed to comply with changes in State or federal laws or regulations, changes to line items in the budget and/or the timeline/deliverables as required for project implementation, and no-cost extensions if needed for project completion, in consultation with County Counsel, and prior notification to your Board.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the recommended actions will authorize the CEO to execute and implement, on behalf of LANES, the Agreement with CeC, the State designated entity, to enable HIE in the State of California, to accept \$996,070 in grant funds for HIE expansion, via the LANES HDHP, and to execute further amendments, modifications, extensions, and augmentations to the Agreement consistent with this purpose.

The Agreement seeks to stimulate the development of robust HIE infrastructure in California by supporting community level and statewide efforts to improve connectivity. The program seeks to expand HIE capacity, enable California providers to achieve meaningful use of electronic health records (EHRs), and improve healthcare quality, coordination and efficiency. Grant recipients will serve as critical partners in CeC's strategy for enabling HIE in California.

As previously reported to your Board, the County as the prime applicant for LANES and its technology partner, Western Health Information Network (WHIN), submitted a grant application on January 31, 2011, to CeC for HIE expansion. Attachment I summarizes the scope of the LANES HDHP.

LANES was one of five grant awards approved by CeC and received the highest grant award (Attachment II). Attachment III summarizes the scope of work for the grant and the key provisions covered in the draft Agreement.

While the County, as the prime applicant, has received the proposed Agreement from CeC, several provisions are still under review by CeC based on comments from the grant recipients, including LANES. With few, if any exceptions, the Agreement, which will ultimately be executed, will be substantially the same for all recipients. Therefore, we are requesting delegated authority to execute the Agreement once the final format has been issued by CeC. The CEO will execute the Agreement following review and approval by County Counsel and prior notification to your Board.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended action supports Goal 4, Health and Mental Health of the County's Strategic Plan.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The grant funds of \$996,070 from CeC for the HDHP will be administered by the LANES fiscal intermediary, Public Health Foundation Enterprises (PHFE). In separate action, your Board authorized the CEO, as a member of LANES, to enter into an agreement with PHFE.

The matching fund requirement for the CeC HIE Expansion grant is \$996,070. This amount will be made up of \$750,000 of the County funding previously approved by your Board for the Health-e-LA project and a cash contribution from L.A. Care of \$250,000.

L.A. Care is also covering the salary of an Executive Director for LANES over the term of the grant period, which provides an additional in-kind match for this project. All of the other LANES member organizations are providing in-kind contributions to the grant via staff participating in the project.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

CeC is the State designated entity responsible for administering the State's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds of 2009. The 18-month grant term runs from May 2011 through October 2012. Both Los Angeles County and the Orange County Partnership Regional Health Organization are recipients of CeC HIE Expansion grants and each will utilize PHFE as their fiscal intermediary. CeC indicated they could not provide multiple grants to one party and determined it was therefore appropriate to provide the grant to Los Angeles County as the prime applicant for the LANES project. PHFE will still serve as LANES' fiscal intermediary and as such, will administer the grant funds.

As previously reported to your Board, the vision of LANES is to be an integrated, secure and forward-looking information management system that will facilitate the provision of legally permissible and timely, patient-centered and high-quality healthcare across the continuum of services, the management of emergency and other situations important to the public's health, and continuous quality improvement of healthcare and public health processes and outcomes. In order to achieve this vision, there are several components that will need to be put in place.

One of the fundamental components necessary to achieve this vision is an infrastructure that will allow HIE. It is envisioned that, to the extent that is legally permissible to do so, this infrastructure will also be used to share other data sets important to the County and its constituents, such as public health and emergency data. In order to develop this necessary infrastructure, the LANES Board applied for the CeC HIE Expansion grant.

LANES, which is currently made up of the County as the local government entity; L.A. Care as the public health plan; the Hospital Association of Southern California as the hospital group; the Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County as the community clinic group; and Health-e-LA as the health information exchange organization, will work collaboratively to accomplish the goals of the CeC HIE Expansion grant with WHIN as the technology partner and PHFE as the fiscal intermediary.

The goals of the HDHP are to expand HIE capacity in the County by pre-building interfaces to the eight State approved EHR systems for those participants that currently use an EHR; ensuring participants are able to achieve the Meaningful Use criteria established by the ARRA funds in order to receive Medi-Cal and Medicare incentive payments; and to improve the often fragmented care delivery of those patients in the safety net by making their health records available to authorized providers for improved treatment and coordination of care.

PHFE and WHIN are working on an agreement to formalize the statement of work and deliverables of the project, which will incorporate the deliverables in the Agreement.

In a separate action on May 17, 2011, your Board is being requested to approve \$1.5 million for the Health-e-LA Encounter Summary Sheet Project, which will also be administered by PHFE. As noted above, \$750,000 of these funds will provide a match for the CeC HIE Expansion grant as both projects are working in concert with one another to achieve the CeC goals.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
May 24, 2011  
Page 5

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

This grant will benefit the County in its efforts to expand the infrastructure for legally permissible data sharing in the Los Angeles County region and support partnerships with private providers in order to provide improved healthcare to County residents.

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:SAS  
MM:gl

Attachments (3)

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Auditor-Controller  
Chief Information Office  
Health Services

052411\_HMHS\_BL\_CeC Grant Acceptance

# LANES

## OUTLINE OF HEALTH DATA HIGHWAY PROJECT:

**PRIMARY FOCUS:** To meet Meaningful Use priorities for LA healthcare stakeholders

### **GOALS:**

1. Expand HIE Capacity – Connect eight hosted EHR solutions and five hospital systems to the LANES powered by WHIN HIE.
2. Achieve Meaningful use – In conjunction with HITEC-LA, who are members of the LANES Board, enable no less than 3,000 providers to achieve meaningful use.
3. Care Delivery Transformation – The LANES project will aggregate nearly one-million safety net patient records and provide portal access to those who do not have an EHR to view the aggregated patient records. This will reduce the health disparity of those patients who seek care in the safety net who often have fragmented, non-continuity care.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Connect eligible providers to HIE infrastructure
- Deliver data between hospitals and eligible providers
- Route data to a patient's PHR

### **Project Scope**

- A) Upgrade HIE infrastructure
- B) Connect Hospitals to HIE
- C) Connect Ambulatory EHRs to HIE
- D) Connect Health-e-LA to HIE

### **Minimum Project Participant Capacity:**

- Hospitals – ability to produce HL7 transactions for ADT, Labs, Medications, Transcribed Notes, and RAD reports (May be in Transcribed notes)
- Physicians – EHR to be connected to HIE
- Portal access for clinicians who do not have EHRs (requires internet access)

### **Prioritization Criteria for Participant Selection (in order)**

1. Ability to provide matching funds
2. Number of Eligible Providers served
3. Geographic distribution – high concentrations of hospital and physician provider overlap have higher value
4. Vulnerable population served

### **Initial Volunteers to Participate:**

Hospitals	EHR-enabled EPs
Citrus Valley Health Partners (3 campuses)*	AltaMed Health Services Corporation
Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center	Community Health Alliance of Pasadena
LAC DHS Health System	L.A. Christian Health Centers**
Providence*	Tarzana Treatment Center
	Queenscare

\* Already connected to HIE infrastructure

\*\* Already viewing HIE data, needs integration to receive data into EHR electronically



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
March 4, 2011

**CONTACTS:**  
Carladenise Edwards, 510-978-4830  
Mark Elson, 510-978-4828

## **Cal eConnect Takes Steps to Improve Patient-Centered Care by Awarding \$3.46 Million in Health Information Exchange (HIE) Expansion Grants**

EMERYVILLE, CA – Cal eConnect has officially approved approximately \$3.46 million in Health Information Exchange (HIE) Expansion Grant awards to six organizations in California. The expansion grant program seeks to improve patient-centered care by stimulating the further development of robust HIE. The grants will support community level and statewide efforts to expand the use of health information exchanges committed to providing patient information privately and securely when and where it is needed by patients, physicians, health clinics, and hospitals.

“Cal eConnect is excited about this opportunity to partner with local organizations focused on improving patient-centered care in California,” said Carladenise Edwards, President & CEO of Cal eConnect. “Our State is working hard to expand the use of trusted Health Information Exchange and these grants funded with the ARRA HITECH dollars will move us closer to our goals.”

The following four organizations were officially approved today to receive grant awards:

- OCPRHIO (Orange County Partnership Regional Health Information Organization)  
Amount: \$795,761
- LANES (Los Angeles Network for Enhanced Services). Amount: \$996,070
- Redwood Mednet. Amount: \$476,900
- NCHIN (North Coast Health Information Network). Amount: \$200,105

Furthermore, Cal eConnect authorized awarding up to \$1 million total for the following projects pending further discussion with these organizations:

- Project Title: California Rural eHealth Information Network (CAREHIN)  
Organization: California State Rural Health Association (CSRHA) in partnership with RAIN Telehealth Network
- Project Title: Connecting the Central Valley through HIE  
Organization: EKCITA

Cal eConnect is a non-profit public benefit corporation selected by the California Health and Human Services Agency as the State Designated Entity responsible for deploying funds received from the Federal Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology.

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**LOS ANGELES NETWORK FOR ENHANCED SERVICES (LANES)  
Cal eConnect HIE Expansion Grant**

- The HIE Expansion Grant funds are ARRA funds, therefore, the state is a pass-through entity (a non Federal entity that provides a Federal award to a subrecipient to carry out a Federal program) and the County is a subrecipient (a non Federal entity that expends Federal awards received from a pass-through entity to carry out a Federal program).
- Cal eConnect must ensure compliance with reporting requirements for ARRA funds and will evaluation and monitoring tools such as monthly check-in calls; monthly, quarterly, and annual reports; and site visits.
- The Cal eConnect grants seeks the achieve the following objectives and to answer these evaluation questions:
  - **Expand HIE Capacity** - To what extent are grantees further developing HIE infrastructure, connectivity and capacity in their service domains to increase the flow of private and secure health information between unaffiliated health professionals and entities?
  - **Enable Meaningful Use (MU)** - How is increased HIE capacity supporting eligible providers to achieve HIE-related stage 1 MU requirements?
  - **Improve Delivery of Care** - How is increased HIE capacity helping users contribute to improving patient outcomes and care coordination?
  - **Strategic Partnerships** - To what extent are grantees sharing knowledge, resources and best practices?
- Cal eConnect aims for grantees to support treatment, public health reporting (this is a future endeavor of LANES and not currently planned for this grant), and quality reporting, as well as encourages grantees to propose innovative applications of HIE to improve patient care
- In order to meet Cal eConnect's transparency and complaint process requirements, grantee must make the following available for review:
  - Notice of Privacy Practices
  - All data use agreements
  - Documentation that each grant participant is following Principles for Fair Information Practices
  - List of all BAAs and trading partners for each grant participant
  - Report unauthorized disclosures
  - Ensure mechanism for Participants to receive and respond to patient complaints



## ATTACHMENT III

- To meet notice and consent requirements, grantees shall evaluate each Participant's consent processes
  - Develop list documenting which Participants provide notice and obtain affirmative consent prior to exchanging an individual's health information
  - Additional requirements in cases where Participant not providing notice and obtaining affirmative consent
- To meet security requirements, grantees must comply with evolving security guidelines, such as those included in the California Office of Health Information Integrity (CalOHII) HIE Demonstration Projects' Proposed regulations
  - Procedures for determining whether Participants satisfy these or similar guidelines or have a reasonable timeline and implementation plan